



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

3 AUGUST 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Francisco – Plane Disappeared Off Air Traffic Radar for 12 Seconds before Near-Disaster

(U) The Air Canada plane that nearly caused an aviation disaster at San Francisco International Airport last month dropped off radar displays for 12 seconds in the moments before it approached four fully loaded passenger jets on the taxiway, according to new information released yesterday from federal aviation officials investigating the incident. In addition, the Airport Surface Surveillance Capability (ASSC) system monitors incoming aircraft and is designed to sound a warning in the tower if an airplane is heading for an occupied runway, but it does not warn for planes that may be incorrectly aligned to land on a taxiway, as was the case for the Air Canada plane. Since last year, the Federal Aviation Administration has worked to upgrade the system to also alert towers to planes lined up to taxiways.

SOURCE: 3 August 2017, [Mercury News](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Bans Travel to North Korea, Says Americans Should Leave

(U) Washington DC – A ban on travel by US passport holders to North Korea will take effect on 1 September and Americans in the country should leave before that date, the US State Department said yesterday. The US government last month said it would bar Americans from traveling to North Korea due to the risk of "long-term detention" there. North Korea will become the only country to which Americans are banned from traveling.

SOURCE: 2 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Minnesota – Investigators Look for Answers in School Explosion

(U) Minneapolis – Federal and state authorities are investigating the cause of a gas explosion that ripped through a Christian private school yesterday, killing two people and injured nine. Local officials said it appeared that a ruptured gas line may have led to the explosion, caused by contractors working at the school, local media reported. The state fire marshal and local fire officials were combing through the rubble this morning to determine the exact cause of the explosion. School was not in session due to summer break.

SOURCE: 3 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Ohio – McNeil Sentenced to 20 Years in Prison for Soliciting Murder of US Military Members

(U) Akron – An Ohio man who professed support for ISIS was sentenced to 20 years in prison yesterday for soliciting the murder of US military personnel. Terrence McNeil, 24, of Akron, Ohio, had pleaded guilty in April to five counts of solicitation to commit a crime of violence and five counts of making threatening interstate communications. According to prosecutors, in 2015 McNeil posted online "kill lists" with the names and addresses of 100 US military members and asked others to murder them on behalf of ISIS, to which he had professed support on social media. McNeil also researched the online prices of firearms for sale and possessed detailed bomb-making instructions.

SOURCE: 2 August 2017, [NBC News](#)

(U) Pennsylvania – Freight Train Cars Burning After Derailment; Residents Flee

(U) Hyndman – Rail cars carrying gas and sulfur on a CSX Corp freight train ran off the tracks and caught fire yesterday in a small Pennsylvania town, forcing hundreds of residents to flee their homes as firefighters fought the blaze. CSX said one rail car containing liquefied petroleum gas and one car containing molten sulfur leaked and were on fire. Authorities concerned about the risk of an explosion ordered the evacuation of residents within a one-mile radius, which encompasses most of the town. There was no word on what caused the crash.

SOURCE: 2 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Kenya – Police Station Attacked in Days before National Election

(U) Lafey – Al-Shabaab militants attacked a remote police outpost in northern Kenya today and killed an officer days before national elections. A major attack could undermine the security credentials of President Uhuru Kenyatta who is standing for a second and final term at elections on 8 July when the country will also vote for members of parliament and regional authorities. The attackers hit two vehicles when they fired rocket propelled grenades at the camp in Lafey village near the border with Somalia before police repulsed the attack. Al-Shabaab frequently launch attacks in Kenya in a bid to force the country to withdraw its troops from Somalia.

SOURCE: 3 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mexico – Military Seizes 720 Drums of Methamphetamine Precursor Chemical from Ship

(U) Manzanillo – Mexican authorities say they have seized almost 40,000 pounds of a methamphetamine precursor chemical from a ship that sailed to the country from China. Mexico's navy said yesterday that marines found the phenyl acetic acid in 720 drums aboard the cargo ship Coyhaique the previous day at the Pacific port of Manzanillo. The ship had set out from Shanghai and was bound for Lazaro Cardenas, another port on the Pacific coast. Drug cartels have long imported such chemicals through Lazaro Cardenas. Phenyl acetic acid is used to produce methamphetamine at clandestine labs, and the product is often exported to the United States.

SOURCE: 2 August 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Yemen – Suicide Car Bomb Kills Five Soldiers

(U) Shabwa – Two attackers detonated a car bomb in southern Yemen yesterday, killing themselves and five soldiers and injuring several others. The bombing took place in the Redhoom district of Shabwa province near a security checkpoint. The local official added, without elaborating, that he suspected the attackers were affiliated with al-Qa'ida. Shabwa is one of several provinces in Yemen in which al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) is active.

SOURCE: 2 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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